

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 037531

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ORIGIN AF-06

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DRAFTED BY: AF/C:DLCARDWELL:SEH

APPROVED BY: AF:EWMULCAH

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R 241915Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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HOLD FOR AMBASSADOR QUANTON

FOL REPEAT OF BANGUI 0271 TO SECSTATE FEB 13

QTE:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGUI 0271

FOR AF:C - AMBASSADOR QUANTON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, APER, CT

SUBJECT: TENUE FOR CREDENTIALS CEREMONY

1. WAS FINALLY ABLE TODAY FOR FIRST TIME
SINCE ATTEMPTED BOKASSA ASSASSINATION TO SEE FONMIN
OFFICIAL RE CREDENTIALS CEREMONY. DURING ALL-DAY TRIAL
HAD OCCASION POSE QUESTION TO FONMIN FRANCK WHO RETURNED
FEBRUARY 11 FROM PHILIPPINES.

2. WHEN I REMARKED THAT AT CREDENTIALS CEREMONY FEBRUARY 12
BOTH NEW GREEK AND CANADIAN AMBASSADORS WORE MORNING COAT,
STRIPED PANTS, VEST, SILK TOP HAT, ETC., FRANCK RESPONDED
THAT EACH AMBASSADOR MAY WEAR WHAT IS CUSTOMARY IN HIS
HOME COUNTRY, THAT THERE IS NO PRESCRIBED DRESS, AND THAT MEMBERS
OF GOVERNMENT ALWAYS WEAR DARK SUITS. PRESIDENT BOKASSA ALSO
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PAGE 02 STATE 037531

WEARS SUIT UNLESS AMBASSADOR HOLDS MILITARY RANK IN WHICH

CASE HE WEARS MARSHAL'S UNIFORM.

3. SUGGEST TO BE ON SAFE SIDE THAT YOU BRING ALONG
MORNING COAT AND TRAPPINGS IF YOU ALREADY POSSESS SUCH. IF NOT
YOU MAY WISH THINK TWICE ABOUT INVESTING IN SUCH AS IT IS
ALMOST CERTAIN TO BE ONLY TIME YOU WILL USE SUCH TENUE
DURING YOUR ASSIGNMENT HERE.

4. IN VIEW OF AMBASSADOR QUANTON'S IMMINENT DEPARTURE FOR PARIS/
BANGUI PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS MESSAGE.
SWING
UNQTE INGERSOLL

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NNN

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